

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 SOFIA 02633 131401Z
ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMEMBASSY SOFIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2113

UNCLAS SOFIA 2633

PLEASE PASS FOLLOWING MESSAGE FROM AMBASSADOR HERZ TO
LOS ANGELES PHILHARMONIC MUSIC DIRECTOR ZUBIN MEHTA,
135 NORTH GRAND AVENUE, LOS ANGELES, CAL. 90012.

E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: OEXC, SCUL, PFOR, BU
SUBJECT: SUGGESTED TELEGRAM FROM ZUBIN MEHTA TO SOFIACONCERT

1. FOLLOWING MESSAGE PREPARED BY AMBASSADOR HERZ PRIOR TO
HIS DEPARTURE FOR MEDICAL CHECK-UP.

2. SOFIA CONTINUES TO TALK OF THE STIRRING PERFORMANCES
GIVEN BY YOU AND THE ORCHESTRA DECEMBER 6 AND 7. ADJECTIVES
USED INCLUDE "INSPIRED," "UNIQUELY THRILLING," "MATCHLESS
DYNAMISM AND BREADTH," ETC. AT THE SAME TIME, I WOULD
BE LESS THAN FRANK IF I DID NOT MENTION THAT THE EVENTS
OF TUESDAY EVENING HAVE IMPAIRED OUR RELATIONS WITH SOFIA-
CONCERT AND THUS OUR CHANCES FOR SECURING THEIR COOPERATION
IN PRESENTING OTHER AMERICAN CULTURAL ATTRACTIONS. UNDER
THESE CIRCUMSTANCES, I WONDER IF YOU COULD SEE YOUR WAY
CLEAR TO SENDING A TELEGRAM ALONG THE FOLLOWING LINES TO
DIRECTOR IVAN IVANOV OF SOFIACONCERT, 3 VOLOV STREET,
SOFIA, BULGARIA.

3. BEGIN QUOTE: ALLOW ME TO EXPRESS MY SINCERE APPRE-
CIATION AND THAT OF THE ENTIRE ORCHESTRA FOR THE SPLENDID,
UNTIRING EFFORTS WHICH YOU AND YOUR STAFF MADE DURING OUR
STAY IN SOFIA AND WHICH CONTRIBUTED SO GREATLY TO OUR
PERFORMANCES. I MAY SAY THAT OF ALL OF THE CITIES IN WHICH
WE APPEARED IN EASTERN EUROPE, ARRANGEMENTS WENT MOST
SMOOTHLY IN SOFIA THANKS TO THE PROFESSIONALISM AND COOPERA-
TION OF SOFIACONCERT. THE EVENTS WHICH TOOK PLACE DURING
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THE INTERMISSION AT THE DECEMBER 7 CONCERT ARE DEEPLY

REGRETTABLE AND I TRUST THEY WILL NOT AFFECT OUR WARM AND FRIENDLY RELATIONSHIP. PLEASE CONVEY TO YOUR STAFF THE SINCERE GRATITUDE AND AFFECTION OF ALL ASSOCIATED WITH THE LOS ANGELES PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA. ZUBIN MEHTA. UNQUOTE

4. YOU WILL NOTE THAT WE HAVE CAREFULLY PHRASED THIS SUGGESTED MESSAGE SO THAT IT DOES NOT GO INTO THE RIGHTS OR WRONGS OF THE SITUATION. I JUST THINK IT WOULD BE GOOD POLITICS (FOR THE CAUSE IN WHICH YOU CAME TO SOFIA) TO SEND SUCH A MESSAGE OR ANOTHER ONE IN A SIMILAR SPIRIT.

5. LET ME CONCLUDE BY SAYING THAT ELIZABETH AND I TREASURE THE MEMORY OF OUR EVENING TOGETHER AND OF THE RECEPTION IN YOUR AND LAP'S HONOR WHICH WAS ONE OF THE MOST SUCCESSFUL WE HAVE HAD HERE IN SOFIA, THANKS TO YOU AND MR. FLEISCHMANN AND THE OTHER ORCHESTRA MEMBERS. YOU HAVE DONE A FANTASTIC JOB HERE FOR THE UNITED STATES WHICH TO SOME EXTENT WAS UNDONE BY THE "INCIDENT" WHICH COULD SET US BACK HERE, BUT FRIENDLY MESSAGE ALONG LINES OF ABOVE WOULD GO A LONG WAY TO RESTORING THE SITUATION. WARM REGARDS. AMBASSADOR MARTIN F. HERZ.
FELDMAN

NOTE BY OC/T: PASSED LOS ANGELES, CAL.

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